IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

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Tamara K. Alsaada,

et al.,

:

Plaintiffs,

: Case No. 2:20-cv-3431

vs. Judge Marbley

: Magistrate Judge Jolson

City of Columbus, Ohio, et al.,

:

Defendants. :

- - - - -

DEPOSITION OF ANTHONY JOHNSON VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

- - - - -

Taken at The Residence of Anthony Johnson Columbus, Ohio 43215 February 16, 2021, 12:59 p.m.

- - - - -

Spectrum Reporting LLC 400 S. Fifth Street, Ste. 201 Columbus, Ohio 43215 614-444-1000 or 800-635-9071 www.spectrumreporting.com

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	ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS:	3 Mr. Marshall - Cross
3	Marshall and Forman, LLC	4
4	250 Civic Center Drive, Ste. 480	5
	Columbus, OH 43215	6
5	By John S. Marshall, Esq.	7
6	Samuel Schlein, Esq. (Via videoconference)	
7	(8
	ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS:	9
8	Columbus City Attorney's Office	10
9	77 North Front Street, 4th Floor	11
	Columbus, OH 43215	12
10	By Alana Valle Tanoury, Esq.	13
11	Stephen J. Steinberg, Esq. (Via videoconference)	14
12	(via videoconference)	15
13		16
14		17
15 16		18
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18		20 (No exhibits were marked.)
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- 1 Q. And, Officer Johnson, I know you've
- 2 been through depositions before. In fact, you
- 3 were deposed by Sam here in the Lieutenant
- 4 McFadden case. Do you have any trouble hearing me
- 5 so far?
- 6 A. I do not.
- 7 Q. Let me ask you just a few -- let me
- 8 just go over a few ground rules before I get into
- 9 the questions I want to ask about the -- about
- 10 your involvement in the protests that this case
- 11 concerns.
- First, I want you to make sure that you
- 13 understand my questions; that you hear them and
- 14 understand them so that if you have a concern
- 15 about a question, please stop me, have me say it
- 16 again, have me explain it so that you have a
- 17 complete understanding before you give us an
- 18 answer. Will you do that today?
- 19 A. Absolutely.
- 20 Q. And I ask all witnesses whether they
- 21 have any health issues or take any medication that
- 22 affects their memory?
- 23 A. Nope.
- 24 Q. Do you have any health condition or

- 1 Q. Do you have a role in any of the other
- 2 protests as a police officer?
- 3 A. I did not.
- 4 Q. Did you attend or observe any of the
- 5 other protests, other than the time you were
- 6 present in your job as a police officer?
- 7 A. I went down to a -- like a
- 8 demonstration at the Statehouse on my own time
- 9 just to go down there. I don't know exactly what
- 10 date that was, though.
- 11 Q. Was that after these three days?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Was it a Black Lives Matter protest or
- 14 some other protest?
- 15 A. I mean, it was -- it had to do with the
- 16 unrest that happened on the 28th, started on the
- 17 28th.
- 18 Q. No, that wasn't my question.
- 19 What was the -- the protestors at the
- 20 Statehouse on the day you went down to observe,
- 21 what were they protesting about?
- 22 A. It was a demonstration. I wouldn't say
- 23 that it was exactly a protest, but, I mean, there
- 24 were Black Lives Matter protestors down there as

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- 1 take any medication that affects your ability to
- 2 answer questions truthfully?
- 3 A. I do not.
- 4 Q. As I understand it, you were deployed
- 5 as an officer during some of the summer Black
- 6 Lives Matter protests that this case concerns; is
- 7 that right?
- 8 A. Yes. The -- yes.
- 9 Q. All right. What was your normal zone
- 10 and shift at the time of the protests? Let me
- 11 just identify the time of the protests we're
- 12 talking about. They began in the summer of --
- well, they began on May 28th of 2020 and went on
- 14 for some period of days or weeks after that. Do
- 15 you remember that generally?
- 16 A. I do
- 17 Q. What days -- if you recall, what
- 18 specific days were you at the protests as a police
- 19 officer?
- 20 A. I was there the 28th, which I think is
- 21 a Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- 22 Q. All right. So you were there the 28th,
- 23 29th and 30th of May; is that right?
- 24 A. That is correct.

- 1 well.
- 2 Q. Were there other kinds of protestors
- 3 down there?
- 4 A. That I'm not sure.
- 5 Q. Okay. So there were protestors holding
- 6 up the signs similar to the ones you had seen on
- 7 the 28th, 29th and 30th, is that what you're
- 8 saying?
- 9 A. That is correct.
- 10 Q. All right. There were some counter
- 11 protests. Were you present for any of those?
- 12 A. I was not.
- 13 Q. Okay. At the -- on Thursday the 28th,
- 14 what was your normal zone and shift on that day?
- 15 A. So I work zone five, B company, which
- 16 is 2p to 10p.
- 17 Q. Okay. What hours were you at the
- 18 protests on the 28th?
- 19 A. I'm not sure exactly what time we got
- 20 out of there. We were down there for a while, but
- 21 it was well beyond my normal shift.
- 22 Q. Did you start down there at about 2:00
- 23 p.m.?
- 24 A. No. I had my normal shift, then there

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- 1 were two different demonstrations, one started at
- 2 internal affairs and the other one started down on
- 3 the south side somewhere. I don't remember that
- 4 exact location.
- 5 Q. Does Livingston --
- 6 A. And then we met up downtown.
- 7 Q. Livingston and Lockbourne sound right
- 8 for --
- 9 A. Yes, that sounds about right.
- 10 Q. Where was the first protest to which
- 11 you were physically assigned or physical present?
- 12 A. IA, internal affairs.
- 13 Q. When you say it was at internal
- 14 affairs, what do you mean?
- 15 A. They met at internal affairs.
- 16 Q. I'm sorry, you -- the officers met at
- 17 internal affairs is what you're saying?
- 18 A. The group met at internal affairs.
- 19 Q. I'm confused. You're not describing a
- 20 Black Lives Matter protest that occurred inside of
- 21 the headquarters of the police division, are you?
- 22 A. No. Not inside, at the building.
- 23 Q. At the place --
- 24 A. At the building of internal affairs.

- 1 Q. Who did you go there with?
- 2 A. I think I was working with Officer
- 3 Colin Jones. I think he was my partner that day.
- 4 Q. Okay. Had he been your partner on
- 5 other occasions?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Was he a regular partner or just an
- 8 occasional partner?
- 9 A. He's my regular partner.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you and Officer Jones drove
- 11 your cruiser from zone five down to this location?
- 12 A. That is correct, but that's also on
- 13 zone five.
- 14 Q. Okay. So the internal affairs building
- 15 is located within zone five, right?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. Where were you at the time you
- 18 got the call?
- 19 A. Once again, I don't know if it was a
- 20 call or someone told me in person, but I don't
- 21 recall exactly where I was.
- 22 Q. Did you come with lights and sirens?
- 23 A. I did not.
- 24 Q. Okay. Where did -- did you park your

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- 1 Q. Thank you.
- 2 A. You're welcome.
- 3 Q. The internal affairs building is
- 4 located where?
- 5 A. I don't know the exact address.
- 6 Q. Okay. Where is it in relation to the
- 7 police headquarters, which is on Marconi
- 8 Boulevard?
- 9 A. I would say it's east of that location.
- 10 Q. Okay. And there was a group of
- 11 protestors that had gathered at that site outside
- 12 of the building, correct?
- 13 A. That is correct.
- 14 Q. How large was the group?
- 15 A. I would estimate anywhere between 20
- 16 and 40.
- 17 Q. Okay. How were you dispersed to come
- 18 to that location?
- 19 A. Like the means in which I was told to
- 20 go there?
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. I don't quite remember. Someone either
- 23 told me to go there or over the radio or in
- 24 person.

- 1 cruiser? What did you do?
- 2 A. We just blocked traffic. They were --
- 3 the group was in the middle of the road. So in
- 4 order to keep them safe, we just kind of blocked
- 5 traffic.
- 6 Q. Where did you block traffic? On what
- 7 location?
- 8 A. By internal affairs.
- 9 Q. Well, where did you put your cruiser?
- 10 What street was it on? Where was it facing?
- 11 A. It was the street that internal affairs
- 12 is on. And we were -- I would say we were east of
- 13 the crowd, so blocking eastbound traffic following
- 14 them as they were marching west towards downtown.
- 15 Q. Do you know what street that is?
- 16 A. I can't think of it offhand right now.
- 17 Q. Okay. So you blocked that street at a
- 18 location east of the building, is that what you're
- 19 saying?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. How far away from the group of 20 to 40
- 22 people?
- 23 A. I would say approximately -- it varied.
- 24 They were walking and we were kind of following

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- 1 them as they were walking, some would kind of
- 2 trail back so, you know, they would get a little
- 3 closer to us. So I would say it varied from maybe
- 4 10 feet to 30, 40 feet.
- 5 Q. Okay. What did you do then?
- 6 A. We continued to follow the crowd.
- 7 Q. Follow them in what direction?
- 8 A. West towards downtown.
- 9 Q. So they were moving from the internal
- 10 affairs building towards downtown, towards --
- 11 towards the Statehouse, is that where they were
- 12 moving?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. Moving towards -- let's -- the
- 15 Statehouse, at least one corner of the Statehouse
- 16 is Broad and High street, right?
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 Q. Okay. So they were moving toward that
- 19 generally?
- 20 A. That's where they ended up, yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And you followed them walking or
- 22 in your cruiser?
- 23 A. In my cruiser.
- 24 Q. Were there other cruisers also

- 1 you're not allowed to be in a street, so we were
- 2 just telling them to get out of the street for
- 3 safety reasons.
- 4 Q. Okay
- 5 A. We didn't want anybody to get hurt.
- 6 Q. All right. So you were using your
- 7 discretion as an officer, you knew what they were
- 8 doing was -- even though it was a minor crime, you
- 9 knew that what they were doing was a crime, right?
- 10 A. I knew what they were doing was a
- 11 crime, yes.
- 12 Q. So you were using your authority as a
- 13 police officer to order them out of the street
- 14 further on safety, but you had the authority to do
- 15 that because they were committing a crime, right?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. And it was your decision -- was
- 18 it your decision or Colin Jones' decision to make
- 19 this order?
- 20 A. I would say it was mine -- it was mine.
- 21 Q. Okay. Who has more seniority in the
- 22 division, you or Jones?
- 23 A. We're under the same class, but I'm
- 24 ahead of him in seniority.

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- 1 following this group of protestors?
- 2 A. There were.
- 3 Q. How many?
- 4 A. I would say in between three to six.
- 5 Q. At the time that you observed the
- 6 protestors outside the internal affairs building,
- 7 did you see any acts of violence committed by the
- 8 protestors?
- 9 A. When they were outside of internal
- 10 affairs, no.
- 11 Q. Yes. Okay.
- 12 As they were moving towards the Broad
- 13 and High location, did you see any acts of either
- 14 property damage or violence?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. What were the protestors doing?
- 17 A. They were just blocking traffic, not
- 18 listening to our commands to get out of the
- 19 street, you know, yelling at us --
- 20 Q. Who was it --
- 21 A. -- yelling different things.
- 22 Q. Who was it that told you to order the
- 23 protestors out of the street?
- 24 A. There's a city ordinance and law that

- Q. Okay. How did you convey this order to
- 2 this group of protestors?
- 3 A. Over the P.A. system.
- 4 Q. The P.A. system on your cruiser?
- 5 A. That is correct.
- 6 Q. Did the protestors acknowledge that
- 7 they heard it, you know?
- 8 A. Yeah, every now and then some of them
- 9 would turn around and, you know, say, we don't
- 10 care or flip me off or yell eff you and continue
- 11 to walk away.
- 12 Q. Okay. All right. So then you
- 13 continued to follow them as they went toward Broad
- 14 and High Street. What happened from there?
- 15 A. They got to Broad and High, they
- 16 surrounded one of our cruisers and started banging
- 17 on the cruiser. That specific cruiser had a
- 18 bicycle attached to the back of it and they
- 19 started pulling on the bicycle as well.
- 20 Q. All right. So the -- whose cruiser did
- 21 they surround?
- 22 A. I don't recall exactly whose cruiser it
- 23 was.
- 24 Q. All right. Was this the same group of

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- 1 20 to 40 people that were at internal affairs?
- 2 A. It was.
- 3 Q. All right. Where were you positioned
- 4 exactly when you observed them surround this other
- 5 cruiser?
- 6 A. At Broad and High.
- 7 Q. Were you right at Broad and High right
- 8 in the middle of the intersection?
- 9 A. Right in the middle of the
- 10 intersection.
- 11 Q. All right. Where was the other
- 12 cruiser, the cruiser that was surrounded?
- 13 A. Right in the middle of the intersection
- 14 as well.
- 15 Q. Did the group surround your cruiser as
- 16 well?
- 17 A. They were towards the rear end of my
- 18 cruiser, but they had the other cruiser completely
- 19 surrounded.
- 20 Q. And how many individuals were around
- 21 this other cruiser?
- 22 A. The entire group.
- 23 Q. Okay. Do you know where that cruiser
- 24 sustained any damage?

- 1 from the crowd. We all exited our cruisers at
- 2 that point to get the other cruiser safely out of
- 3 the middle of the crowd that were banging and
- 4 rocking on the cruiser.
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 A. Gave multiple orders to disperse, to
- 7 get out of the intersection, to stop banging on
- 8 the cruiser. They refused. Chemical agents were
- 9 deployed, they dispersed, we got the car out of
- 10 there and --
- 11 Q. All right. How many officers
- 12 approached the group that was surrounding the
- 13 cruiser at the middle of Broad and High?
- 14 A. I would say roughly five -- five or
- 15 six.
- 16 Q. Okay. What chemical agent did you use?
- 17 A. Our pepper spray or OC spray.
- 18 Q. All right. Is that also called belt
- 19 mace?
- 20 A. Sure, you could call it that.
- 21 Q. Okay. It's -- is it a Mark 9 canister
- 22 or just belt mace?
- 23 A. No, it was just the smaller can that we
- 24 carry on our duty belt.

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- 1 A. I do not.
- 2 Q. Do you know whether they got -- did you
- 3 observe them get the bicycle off the back of the
- 4 cruiser?
- 5 A. I do not know if they successfully did
- 6 that or not.
- 7 Q. Did your cruiser have a bicycle on it?
- 8 A. It did not.
- 9 Q. Did anyone bang on your cruiser?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. How many times did that happen?
- 12 A. No idea. I would say between five and
- 13 ten.
- 14 Q. All right. Were you frightened?
- 15 A. Absolutely.
- 16 Q. So what did you do about it?
- 17 A. About them banging on the cruiser?
- 18 Q. Yes. What did you do about the fact
- 19 that your -- they were banging on the cruiser?
- 20 You saw the other cruiser surrounded and it was a
- 21 frightening situation, what did you do about it?
- A. So when they started banging on our cruiser, no one was directly in front of the
- 24 cruiser, so I just hit the gas and pulled away

- Q. Okay. How many seconds of -- how many
- 2 seconds can you deploy a full canister of OC
- 3 spray?
- 4 A. I have no idea how long it would take
- 5 to empty a full canister of OC spray.
- 6 Q. How many seconds did you use it at
- 7 these individuals who are surrounding the cruiser?
- 8 A. I would say I had an opportunity to use
- 9 it for maybe half a second, a second tops by the
- 10 time that they were dispersing.
- 11 Q. Had other officers deployed their OC
- 12 spray before you?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. And tell me again how many
- 15 people were surrounding the cruiser? How many --
- 16 A. And actually, I take that back, there
- 17 were Mark 9s deployed. I think I did have a
- 18 Mark 9 that -- when that happened.
- 19 Q. So you deployed the Mark 9?
- 20 A. Yes. Yes. There were two Mark 9s
- 21 deployed down there, yeah.
- 22 Q. Okay. And you had one of them?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Okay. And now Mark 9's a larger

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- 1 canister. Is it the same substance inside or is
- 2 it different?
- 3 A. It's like a more aerosol. So it stays
- 4 in the air, but it's -- it's pepper spray or mace,
- 5 whatever you want to call it.
- 6 Q. It's for use to disperse a group of
- 7 people as opposed to just firing at one individual
- 8 usually, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. All right. So you were able to deploy
- 11 some of the Mark 9 canister at this group
- 12 surrounding the cruiser?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. And did -- somebody else also had a
- 15 Mark 9?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you know who that was?
- 18 A. I do not.
- 19 Q. And then others were using their belt
- 20 mace, right?
- 21 A. I'm not sure if anybody else used any
- 22 type of mace --
- 23 Q. All right.
- 24 A. -- at that point.

- 1 A. Once again, I'm not sure if they
- 2 damaged the cruiser or not. I didn't see any
- 3 damage on the cruiser, but I had pepper spray in
- 4 my eye, so I had to kind of go and compose myself.
- 5 Q. Sure. Understand.
- 6 Did you see any other acts of violence
- 7 or property damage by the group of protestors that
- 8 were surrounding the cruiser?
- 9 A. I did not.
- 10 Q. All right. So once -- now, at this
- 11 point, your cruiser -- you pulled away because
- 12 there was nobody in front of you, you pulled away
- 13 to a location a little bit away from this group,
- 14 right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. How far away?
- 17 A. Maybe 20, 30 feet.
- 18 Q. All right. Did you -- did you then go
- 19 back to your cruiser? What did you do?
- 20 A. Yes, I went back to my cruiser. That
- 21 way I just kind of knew where I was at, had one
- 22 hand on the cruiser, other hand on my eyes wiping
- 23 them so I could compose myself.
- 24 Q. Where was Colin Jones?

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- 1 Q. How many seconds did you deploy the
- 2 Mark 9 canister?
- 3 A. A half a second, second tops.
- 4 Q. Okay. Did it create a pretty good fog
- 5 of the -- the pepper spray?
- 6 A. You know, I couldn't tell. Some got in
- 7 my eyes, so I kind of closed my eyes, opened them
- 8 enough to see the cruiser was able to get out of
- 9 there. I got back towards my cruiser --
- 10 Q. All right.
- 11 A. -- and kind of gained my composure.
- 12 Q. So it sounds like there were just a
- 13 second or two of the deploying of the Mark 9 and
- 14 that finally got the protestors to comply with
- 15 your orders to, you know, stop surrounding the
- 16 cruiser; is that fair?
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 Q. Okay. Did any of those protestors
- 19 commit any other illegal acts, other than
- 20 surrounding the cruiser, banging on it and of
- 21 course not getting out of the street? Did any of
- 22 them commit any other acts, like damage to the
- 23 cruiser or assaulting an officer or anything like
- 24 that?

- 1 A. No idea.
- 2 Q. Okay. What happened from there?
- 3 A. I composed myself. We formed a line at
- 4 the intersection of Broad and High on the north
- 5 side of the intersection. At this point, all of
- 6 our cruisers were north of that intersection. The
- 7 crowd was south directly in the middle of that
- 8 intersection. So we formed a line there and
- 9 started to get hit with rocks and water bottles
- 10 and spit on and have water thrown on us for an
- 11 unknown amount of time.
- 12 Q. Okay. When you say, "unknown amount of
- 13 time," are you talking about 10 seconds --
- 14 A. No. Hours.
- 15 O. -- an hour or two hours --
- 16 A. Hours.
- 17 Q. -- or what are you talking about?
- 18 A. Probably two to three hours.
- 19 Q. Two to three hours the line stood there
- 20 without riot gear on and were pelted with rocks
- 21 and water bottles; is that what you're saying?
- 22 A. I didn't say we stood there for an hour
- 23 without riot gear. We stood there for a short
- 24 amount of time and then we got the order to start

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- 1 putting riot gear on, so we did that in like
- 2 different orders, like half the officers went and
- 3 did it and then the rest of us did it.
- 4 O. Yeah, we've seen video of this, and of
- 5 course there's a line of officers that are on High
- 6 Street just north of the intersection of Broad and
- 7 High facing south; is that right?
- 8 A. That is correct.
- 9 Q. How many officers in the line, based on
- 10 your memory?
- 11 A. I mean, officers started showing up.
- 12 You know, at some point someone asked for back up,
- 13 because, you know, they were throwing stuff at us,
- 14 they were assaulting police officers, turning
- 15 violent, so I would say shortly after that, maybe
- 16 20 to 25 officers.
- 17 Q. Okay. When you first formed the line,
- 18 how many were there?
- 19 A. It was the initial group of us, so five
- 20 to six.
- 21 Q. And how long before you -- back up
- 22 started arriving?
- 23 A. I'm not sure. I mean, it was
- 24 relatively quick. I mean, we're in the heart of

- 1 Q. -- is in a sling, right?
- 2 A. That is correct.
- 3 Q. Was that an injury you received during
- 4 the protests?
- 5 A. It is.
- 6 Q. Okay. We'll talk about that in a
- 7 minute, but just when did that injury occurred?
- 8 A. The 28th.
- 9 Q. Approximately when?
- 10 A. It was later in the night. I would say
- 11 anywhere between maybe 9:00 p.m. to midnight.
- 12 Q. Describe what happened for us.
- 13 A. Someone from the crowd picked up a Lime
- 14 scooter, the scooters that you rent downtown and
- 15 drive around on, and threw it, striking me in the
- 16 shoulder and the left arm.
- 17 Q. Okay. What injury did you receive?
- 18 A. Torn rotator cuff, a back sprain, a
- 19 shoulder sprain and a neck sprain.
- 20 Q. Where did you receive treatment for
- 21 these injuries?
- 22 A. I received treatment at a chiropractor,
- 23 Ability Chiropractor in Worthington for my back
- 24 injury, and then I had to have rotator cuff

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- 1 downtown.
- 2 O. Was it within seconds or did it take
- 3 minutes?
- 4 A. Oh, there were -- maybe 10 minutes.
- 5 Q. During those 10 minutes, were you
- 6 struck with any objects?
- 7 A. Absolutely.
- 8 Q. How many times?
- 9 A. Probably three to five times.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. I had water thrown on me, I was hit
- 12 with a rock, hit with a water bottle.
- 13 Q. Okay. Was the water bottle frozen
- 14 water or liquid water?
- 15 A. Liquid water.
- 16 Q. What size rock hit you and where did it
- 17 hit you?
- 18 A. I was hit with a -- maybe a golf ball
- 19 sized rock, but it might have been -- where they
- 20 have like the granite curbs down there, I mean, it
- 21 was a heavy piece on the right arm.
- 22 Q. Okay. I notice your arm is -- I think
- 23 it's your left arm --
- 24 A. Left arm.

- 1 surgery at Grant Hospital.
- 2 Q. When did you have the surgery, Officer?
- 3 A. On December 9th.
- 4 Q. So what -- did you work between -- you
- 5 received this injury on the 28th and yet you
- 6 worked on the 29th and 30th; is that right?
- 7 A. That is correct.
- 8 Q. Okay. How did you manage to do that?
- 9 A. Well, there's a lot going on, a lot of
- 10 adrenaline dumping, I didn't want to leave my guys
- 11 out there with all the chaos going on and how
- 12 violent the crowds were. So by the time that
- 13 Saturday night came around, I couldn't take it
- 14 anymore, so went and got an MRI and found out I
- 15 had a torn rotator cuff.
- 16 Q. Okay. So you worked through the 28th
- 17 after this scooter injury occurred, you worked a
- 18 full shift or longer than a full shift on the
- 19 29th?
- 20 A. I would say it was probably longer, it
- 21 was a longer shift. Actually it was a longer
- 22 shift, yeah.
- 23 Q. Okay. From when to when did you work
- 24 on the 29th?

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- 1 A. I don't remember the exact hours. I
- 2 think we kind of came in early and stayed late,
- 3 but I don't remember the exact hours.
- 4 Q. Well, early for you would be sometime
- 5 before 2:00 p.m., right?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. All right. So you think it was
- 8 somewhat earlier than that?
- 9 A. Yeah. Yeah. I mean, once again, I
- 10 don't know, there was a lot going on. I was
- 11 tired. We might have came in earlier or -- I know
- 12 my hours were varied, I'll say that -- are varied.
- 13 Q. You worked more than a full shift on
- 14 the 29th. How about the 30th, did you work more
- 15 than a full shift on the 30th?
- 16 A. That I'm not sure. It might have been
- 17 an eight-hour, but I would assume it was longer.
- 18 Q. All right. So the back sprain and
- 19 rotator cuff injury that you received on the 28th
- 20 at about 9:00 p.m., what symptoms did you have on
- 21 the 29th?
- 22 A. Back pain, shoulder pain, neck pain.
- 23 Q. Okay. Did you have any treatment to
- 24 your neck, other than chiropractic treatment?

- 1 without surgery and then finally you had to have
- 2 the surgery, right?
- 3 A. Well, I think -- I think Workers' Comp.
- 4 wanted me to try to have physical therapy, the
- 5 surgeon wanted to have surgery immediately because
- 6 he knew how bad of a tear it was. So per Workers'
- 7 Comp. we did physical therapy for a while.
- 8 Q. All right.
- 9 A. Which didn't work, and then we had the
- 10 surgery.
- 11 Q. All right. A common story, I'm afraid,
- 12 with Workers' Comp. That didn't work, you've had
- 13 the surgery and hopefully that will repair the
- 14 rotator cuff, right?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Did you play sports in high school,
- 17 basketball, football?
- 18 A. I did not.
- 19 Q. I'm just asking because I had a rotator
- 20 cuff tear playing basketball and I kind of know
- 21 what it feels like.
- 22 A. They're not fun.
- 23 Q. No, they are not.
- 24 The -- when do you anticipate returning

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- 1 A. I have not.
- 2 Q. Did you have any treatment of your back
- 3 other than chiropractic treatment?
- 4 A. I have not.
- 5 Q. Was the surgery successful in repairing
- 6 the torn rotator cuff?
- 7 A. It was.
- 8 Q. Were you -- when did you stop working
- 9 and go on injury leave related to these injuries
- 10 that occurred during the protests?
- 11 A. It was after my shift Saturday night.
- 12 Q. So on the 30th of May you stopped
- 13 working, right?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. And you have not worked since that
- 16 time?
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 Q. All right. And you finally, it sounds
- 19 like -- I'm going to take a guess, tell me if I've
- 20 got this right, you tried rehabilitation, physical
- 21 therapy for the rotator cuff and then finally had
- 22 to have surgery; is that what happened?
- 23 A. That is correct.
- 24 Q. All right. So you tried to do it

- 1 to work?
- 2 A. I have no idea. I meet with my
- 3 surgeon, I think in two weeks, and, you know,
- 4 hopefully he'll give me a time frame. But ended
- 5 up being a pretty bad tear. So not only did he
- 6 have to suture it back together, he had to staple
- 7 it and put an artificial layer on top to help heal
- 8 it.
- 9 Q. Describe how that tear occurred based
- 10 on what happened. If you know.
- 11 A. So I didn't see who threw the scooter.
- 12 I was looking right to my right at some of the
- 13 crowd that was yelling and throwing things. At
- 14 this point, objects were coming out of the crowd
- 15 left and right, so, you know, it was my goal to
- 16 see an object and either call it out for other
- 17 officers to be aware of or to swat it down, that
- 18 way it wouldn't hit me or other officers.
- 19 So I'm looking to the right, because
- 20 this is where a lot of the objects were coming
- 21 from. The officer to the left of me says, heads
- 22 up. I look to the left, I see the scooter come
- 23 from the crowd or coming from the crowd, I put my
- 24 left arm up in like a defensive motion, the

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- 1 scooters weigh roughly 50 pounds. The handlebars
- 2 caught like my inner elbow and wrenched my arm
- 3 back. And the part like where you put your feet,
- 4 like where you rest your feet like where the
- 5 battery is actually hit my shoulder and twisted my
- 6 body and took me off the line.
- 7 Q. Okay. Did it knock you down?
- 8 A. It did not.
- 9 Q. Okay. Immediately thereafter -- did
- 10 you immediately realize you were hurt?
- 11 A. I knew something wasn't right, but once
- 12 again, I mean, my adrenaline was pumping so much,
- 13 there was so much going on there. I don't think I
- 14 felt like the full amount of pain that I would
- 15 have if it would have happened during a normal
- 16 circumstance.
- 17 Q. And you estimate this was about 9:00
- 18 p.m.?
- 19 A. I think I said between 9:00 and 12:00.
- 20 Q. All right. Could have been anywhere in
- 21 those three hours, 9:00 to midnight?
- 22 A. Correct.
- 23 Q. Were you in riot gear or protective
- 24 gear at that point in time?

- 1 You were there for at least some
- 2 minutes without protective gear, right?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. About how long do you think you were
- 5 exposed to these things without protective gear?
- 6 A. I would say we were there, you know,
- 7 I'm not sure the exact time without gear. Like I
- 8 said, half of the group geared up and we had to
- 9 wait on them and then come back. You know, I'm
- 10 not exactly sure how much time I was there without
- 11 gear on. But, I mean, it was enough to get hit
- 12 with multiple items.
- 13 Q. All right. Did you receive any other
- 14 injuries that day?
- 15 A. Just bumps and bruises.
- 16 Q. Okay. Did you fill out an injury
- 17 report on the rotator cuff injury?
- 18 A. I did.
- 19 Q. Did you fill out an injury report that
- 20 mentioned the back or the neck?
- 21 A. I think it was all in the same one.
- 22 O. All right. Did you fill out any injury
- 23 reports on the bumps and bruises that you had from
- 24 water bottles or whatever it might be?

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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 O. So you had broken -- taken a break from
- 3 the line that you all formed north on High Street
- 4 and had gone to get on protective gear, right?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And then come back to the line.
- When did you leave and when did you
- 8 come back, what times?
- 9 A. When did I leave the line and come
- 10 back? So our cruisers were directly behind the
- 11 line, so it was literally us just stepping off the
- 12 line to our cruisers, grabbing the gear, putting
- 13 it on. I'm not sure exactly what time that that
- 14 happened.
- 15 Q. Okay. The gear was all -- was in your
- 16 cruiser, so you did that in a manner of minutes at
- 17 some point in time, right?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. All right. I'm guessing that the small
- 20 group waited for back-up officers before they left
- 21 to their cruisers to put on protective gear,
- 22 right?
- 23 A. Can you repeat that?
- 24 Q. Yeah. Bad question.

- 1 A. Nope.
- 2 Q. Okay. Were you supposed to? If you
- 3 received a bruise from a rock thrown at you that
- 4 hit you, weren't you supposed to fill out an
- 5 injury report?
- 6 A. I'm not sure there's a directive that
- 7 tells me I have to or not, but I did not.
- 8 Q. Okay. Other than the one rock you
- 9 described that was -- you gave us the size, about
- 10 the size of a golf ball, but you thought maybe it
- 11 was granite, because it was heavy, right?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. Did you get hit with any other rocks
- 14 that day, the 28th?
- 15 A. Absolutely.
- 16 Q. All right. How many times did you get
- 17 hit with rocks?
- 18 A. With just a rock?
- 19 Q. With just a rock.
- 20 A. I have no idea. I would estimate that
- 21 whole night just -- are you asking just Thursday
- 22 or the entire time that I was down there Thursday,
- 23 Friday and Saturday?
- 24 Q. Let's just talk about Thursday, how

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- 1 many times?
- 2 A. Thursday? I mean, that's hard to
- 3 quantify. I mean, they were throwing stuff left
- 4 and right, so I would say specifically a rock that
- 5 I actually seen was a rock? Maybe five to ten.
- 6 Q. Okay. And then how many other objects,
- 7 like water bottles or other things?
- 8 A. Countless. I mean, they were walking
- 9 up to us, opening water bottles, throwing it on
- 10 us, hit with frozen water bottles, they were
- 11 throwing urine on us. I mean, you name it,
- 12 scooters. That wasn't the only scooter that was
- 13 thrown. They threw at least five scooters that
- 14 night.
- 15 Q. Have you watched the overhead video of
- 16 these events?
- 17 A. I have not.
- 18 Q. Okay. The -- when you saw countless
- 19 other objects, including water bottles and so on,
- 20 you mean a few dozen times you got hit with one of
- 21 these objects?
- 22 A. Yes, multiple, multiple times.
- 23 Q. And the other officers that were there
- 24 experienced the same kind of thing, right? You

- 1 Q. Okay. You observed other officers
- 2 being struck with water bottles and rocks, though,
- 3 right?
- 4 A. That is correct. And also throwing
- 5 stuff at the cruisers and the horses as well.
- 6 Q. Okay. Would you say you saw dozens of
- 7 such items thrown at other officers or more like
- 8 hundreds?
- 9 A. Yeah, I mean, I definitely say there
- 10 were probably over -- around a hundred items
- 11 thrown. I mean, Thursday night as the night went
- 12 on, I mean, the crowd got bigger and more items
- 13 began to get thrown.
- 14 Q. But there were items being thrown from
- 15 the moment that you all formed that line just
- 16 north of the intersection facing Broad and High,
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Items began to be thrown right then and
- 20 sort of happened continuously throughout the time?
- 21 A. Yes
- 22 Q. And then you were there until about
- 23 when?
- 24 A. Once again, I have no idea. It was

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- 1 weren't unique -- they weren't just -- they
- 2 weren't just targeting you, right, Officer?
- 3 A. No, I wouldn't say they were just
- 4 targeting me. I mean, there were officers down
- 5 there who definitely had the crowds' attention.
- 6 You know, taller officers who stood out. So I
- 7 would say that I was on the side of the line of
- 8 like the bigger officers where, you know, we were
- 9 taking a big brunt of it. But I wasn't on any
- 10 other part of the line, so I'm not sure what they
- 11 were going through.
- 12 Q. Okay. Have you received grenadier
- 13 training?
- 14 A. I have not.
- 15 Q. Okay. Have you received any training
- 16 in the deployment of the wooden batons?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Let's finish up what happened on the
- 19 28th. You talked about being hit many times with
- 20 objects, including rocks, water bottles and so on,
- 21 being -- having stuff thrown at you, the scooter.
- 22 Were there any other acts of violence perpetrated
- 23 against you?
- 24 A. No.

- 1 well past 10:00 p.m. when I'm supposed to get off
- 2 work.
- 3 Q. You think it was past midnight, right?
- 4 I think you said the scooter happened between 9:00
- 5 and midnight?
- 6 A. That is correct.
- 7 Q. At some point, did a squad or other --
- 8 grenadiers or someone intervene with this crowd?
- 9 A. So we had a cruiser pull directly
- 10 behind the line and we gave countless orders to
- 11 disperse, you know, that it was a violent crowd,
- 12 they needed to leave the area. They brought the
- 13 horses in to put in between officers and the
- 14 rioters. And at that point, they started throwing
- 15 stuff at the horses and then, yeah, I mean, that
- 16 was pretty much it.
- 17 Then they started breaking the windows
- 18 at the bus stop, then they broke into the
- 19 Statehouse, and then they started catching stuff
- 20 on fire and breaking into the nearby CVS or
- 21 Walgreens, and they -- at that point, they were
- 22 just --
- 23 Q. Did you see them break into the
- 24 Statehouse?

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- 1 A. I did not. I heard them on the radio.
- 2 Q. You heard that?
- 3 A. I heard windows breaking. But I
- 4 physically seen them break into Walgreens or CVS
- 5 there and they started busting windows out with
- 6 those same large rocks and items they were
- 7 throwing at us at the bus stop right there on the
- 8 south end of that intersection, catching trash
- 9 cans on fire. They caught like the grass on fire
- 10 by the Statehouse at one point.
- 11 O. At some point, did either grenadiers or
- 12 SWAT or both deploy wooden batons that you
- 13 observed?
- 14 A. I haven't -- I'm not sure. I'm not
- 15 sure if the grenadiers came Thursday. I know they
- 16 were there Friday and Saturday. I'm not sure if
- 17 they were there Thursday.
- 18 Q. Well, how long was this crowd that had
- 19 grown in size in the -- occupying the intersection
- 20 of Broad and High on the 28th?
- 21 A. You said how long or how large?
- 22 Q. Well, how large was it by 9:00 p.m.?
- 23 Give me an estimate.
- 24 A. So they multiplied relatively fast.

- 1 A. No. No. I mean, there were always
- 2 people in the intersection. I would say at that
- 3 specific intersection at some point, it probably
- 4 got down to a handful of people just standing
- 5 there. But once the chaos started of, you know,
- 6 breaking windows and breaking in buildings and at
- 7 the Statehouse started, the crowd kind of
- 8 dispersed. And they all just started, you know,
- 9 catching stuff on fire and vandalizing stuff and
- 10 whatnot.
- 11 O. Yeah. Well, was this all of the
- 12 protestors who were engaging in activity or just
- 13 some of them?
- 14 A. I'm -- I wouldn't say every single
- 15 person down there was doing that, but, I mean,
- 16 there was a very large percentage of that group
- 17 that were participating in throwing stuff at
- 18 officers, throwing stuff on us, breaking windows,
- 19 catching stuff on fire.
- 20 Q. Okay. Did the division, to your
- 21 knowledge, make any effort to arrest any of these
- 22 protestors for the assaults on the officers?
- 23 A. That I'm not sure. We have -- in a
- 24 situation like that, we have orders to hold the

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- Once they stopped at the intersection and we
- 2 formed the line, I would say maybe an hour after
- 3 that the group that started on Livingston walked
- 4 all the way down there as well and joined them.
- 5 And then I think people were Facebook Living and
- 6 on Instagram Live and it kind of like brought
- 7 attention to it, and so people started driving
- 8 and, I mean, just coming out of nowhere. But I 9 would say by 9:00 p.m., I mean, it's -- it's hard
- 10 to say. Once again, I'm not sure of exactly the
- 11 times, there was a lot going on for me to stop and
- 12 look at my watch, well over a hundred.
- 13 Q. Okay. By midnight, how many were
- 14 there?
- 15 A. At that point, I have no -- there were
- 16 multiple crowds. There were crowds near the
- 17 Statehouse, there were crowds further south of us.
- 18 I mean, if you're talking specifically at that
- 19 intersection where we were at maybe, I'm not sure,
- 20 more than a hundred. I mean, there was more than
- 21 there were at 9:00.
- 22 Q. At some point -- at some point, did
- 23 your -- was the division able to clear the
- 24 intersection at Broad and High? Did that happen?

- 1 line. That's what we do, we sit there and we hold
- 2 that line.
- 3 O. Was that the orders, to hold the line?
- 4 A. Is that the order?
- 5 Q. The whole time you were in that line,
- 6 was that your orders, to just hold the line?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Do you know what the orders were with
- 9 regard to east on Broad or west on Broad?
- 10 A. No idea.
- 11 Q. Or south on High?
- 12 A. Nope.
- 13 Q. Did you see SWAT there other than the
- 14 LRAD that -- at some point an LRAD pulled up and
- 15 there was a loud announcement using the LRAD,
- 16 right?
- 17 A. Yeah. There were several loud
- 18 announcements using the P.A. system. And then
- 19 there were even more announcements over the LRAD,
- 20 so, yes, there was an LRAD there, but I'm pretty
- 21 sure that was attached to a cruiser.
- 22 O. Did that -- did anyone -- did that
- 23 cause any part of the protestors to get out of the
- 24 intersection, or they just ignored it?

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- 1 A. Not that I seen. They definitely
- 2 didn't ignore it. I mean, they were standing
- 3 directly in front of it screaming, I don't care.
- They were putting their hands up, what are you
- 5 going to do about it? We heard you already. You
- 6 said it ten times.
- 7 All right. The cruisers behind you
- 8 were blocking traffic coming down High Street,
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 O. Were there cruisers that you could
- 12 observe east and west on Broad blocking traffic
- coming from those directions? 13
- 14 A. Where I was at, I couldn't see east or
- 15 west on Broad, I could only see north and south.
- 16 Q. All right. South of Broad, could you
- 17 see cruisers blocking the intersections?
- 18 I could see red and blue lights, which
- would tell me that there was a cruiser or a bike 19
- 20 of some sort down there, yes.
- 21 Estimate for me how far south from your Q.
- 22 position were those cruisers?
- 23 A. I would say the next intersection, so a
- 24 block away.

- because we were just north of, so directly
- southwest of that corner is nothing but
- glass-front businesses and, you know, offices. So
- 4 definitely that Walgreens or CVS, I can't remember
- 5 exactly which one it was, the Statehouse, bus
- 6 stops.
- 7 Q. The bus stops are Plexiglass, right?
- 8 A. They sounded like glass. They might
- 9 have been, but they sounded like glass.
- 10 Q. I just -- I was just asking if you
- 11 knew.
- 12 A. I do not. I do not.
- 13 0. Okay. What order came down that
- 14 allowed you to go?
- I think relief came. I don't remember 15
- 16 exactly, but I know at some point someone came to
- 17 the intersection and said, hey, like, you know,
- 18 this group can go.
- 19 At the time you left, about how many
- 20 officers were in the line just north of the
- 21 intersection of Broad and High?
- 22 At that point, I don't think there was
- 23 a line there anymore. Like I said, it got down to
- 24 only a handful of people at that intersection. So

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- Q. State Street? 1
- 2 A. Sounds about right.
- 3 Okay. So you don't know whether the Q.
- 4 division had east and west Broad blocked off as
- 5 well, you don't know one way or the other, right?
- 6 A. I do not know, no.
- 7 O. Why was it that you -- estimate for --
- 8 estimate for me when you got to your home that
- night, what time? 9
- 10 A. Once again, I'm not 100 percent sure of
- 11 the time. It was well after 10:00. I would say
- probably 1:00 a.m., 2:00 a.m.
- 13 O. Okay. What was going on in the
- 14 protests at that point in time?
- 15 They were the same. I mean, they were
- 16 busting windows, catching stuff on fire and, you
- know, at that point, we were still at the 17
- 18 intersection trying to maintain that general area.
- And then I think relief came and said, hey, you 19
- 20 guys are good to leave.
- 21 Q. Where were the windows being busted at
- 22 that point in time?
- 23 A. Everywhere at that intersection. I
- 24 mean, everywhere south of that intersection,

- there was just kind of clusters of officers in
- that area. But at that point, we were just kind
- 3 of north of the intersection. I mean, pretty much
- in the intersection, but in the north part of the
- 5 intersection really waiting to go home, because we
- knew we were there forever, but there were
- 7
- officers all throughout downtown, you know,
- 8 following the dispatches of businesses getting
- broken into and whatnot. 9
- 10 O. Right. There was vandalism going on,
- 11 property damages going on at various places
- 12 downtown at that point. When was it that the
- 13 bigger crowd at Broad and High kind of dispersed
- 14 and there was just a handful of people? About
- 15 what time did that occur?
- 16 A. No idea.
- 17 Q. Okay. Did you go straight home?
- Like once I left work? 18 A.
- 19 Yes. O.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. Okay. I know, there's not very many
- 22 places to go at 1:00 in the morning.
- 23 A. Not when you're tired and you want your
- 24 bed.

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- 1 Q. Right. So you went home and went to
- 2 sleep. And then you went to report for duty the
- 3 next day. Where did you report?
- 4 A. I think -- I think they had us report
- 5 at the academy starting Friday. So I think we
- 6 went to the academy.
- 7 Q. Okay. On the 28th -- had you received
- 8 any specific instruction on the 28th before you
- 9 were dispatched to deal with this group of
- 10 protestors at the internal affairs, had you
- 11 received any specific instruction about what to
- 12 do, where to go, other than, you know, go down and
- 13 there's a group of people in internal affairs,
- 14 other than that?
- 15 A. Well, once again, like I don't know if
- 16 I was dispatched or somebody told me to go down
- 17 there, but I think my orders were just go down
- 18 there and follow the crowd and give updates. Once
- 19 we realized that they were in the streets and they
- 20 weren't listening to us, our multiple orders to
- 21 get out of the streets, we just figured it would
- 22 be safe to block traffic to keep them safe.
- 23 Q. Okay. On the 29th you think you
- 24 gathered at the academy. About how many officers

- 1 supervisors, like a sergeant and lieutenant,
- 2 basically they're in charge. We'll go to an
- 3 intersection and hold it or go to a crowd that's
- 4 doing whatever and, you know, see if we could get
- 5 them to stop.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. We're not sure like -- like specific as
- 8 in?
- 9 Q. Well, I don't know. Did they -- did
- 10 they say what tactics you were going to use? Did
- 11 you get any -- you know, were you told to wear
- 12 protective gear going in?
- 13 A. I think we put riot gear on before
- 14 leaving the academy.
- 15 Q. That was Saturday, though, right?
- 16 A. Definitely Saturday. But Friday, I
- 17 mean, yeah, I would say before we went down there,
- 18 we had -- we had our riot gear on.
- 19 Q. All right. And was it -- did you
- 20 report -- I think you told me earlier you reported
- 21 a little earlier than normal?
- 22 A. I just know my hours varied. Once
- 23 again, there was a lot going on. I didn't sleep
- 24 that night.

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- 1 were there?
- 2 A. If -- I know we gathered at the academy
- 3 or we met at the academy Sunday for sure. I'm not
- 4 sure if it was Saturday, but if it was Saturday, I
- 5 mean, there were probably 50 officers in that
- 6 single room.
- 7 Q. Okay. Maybe I've got the -- I've got
- 8 the dates wrong, but I thought the May the 28th
- 9 was a Thursday?
- 10 A. No, the 28th is Thursday. So I'm
- 11 sorry, I didn't mean to say Sunday, I meant I know
- 12 I went down there Saturday at the academy to start
- 13 roll call. I'm not sure if I went there Friday to
- 14 start roll call.
- 15 Q. Well, where was roll call -- roll call
- 16 happened somewhere on Friday, right?
- 17 A. Yeah, I mean, it was either the
- 18 substation or it was at the academy.
- 19 Q. On Friday the 29th, did you receive any
- 20 specific instruction at roll call about the
- 21 protests?
- 22 A. I think that we were just told that,
- 23 you know, we're going to follow whoever our
- 24 supervisors were, we were like assigned

- Q. Were you on orders for 12-hour shifts
- 2 at that point?
- 3 A. That sounds right, but, you know, I'm
- 4 not 100 percent sure. I know it was longer than
- 5 my eight-hour shift.
- 6 Q. Okay. Normally it was 2:00 to 10:00.
- 7 This could have been noon to midnight, right? Or
- 8 something like that?
- 9 A. Something like that, yeah.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you remember longer -- a
- 11 longer than normal shift on all three of these
- 12 protest days, right?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. All right. And you gathered for roll
- 15 call either at the sub or at academy on Friday?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. And you were told -- you think you left
- 18 the -- with protective gear on, with riot gear,
- 19 right?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. And the instruction you remember -- who
- 22 normally runs roll call for your group?
- 23 A. Well, normally you meet at the precinct
- 24 that your sergeant, like your direct supervisor

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- 1 runs the roll call. Every now and then a
- 2 lieutenant might step in.
- 3 Q. How about this time?
- 4 A. I think there may have been a higher
- 5 ranking supervisor, whether it was like a
- 6 lieutenant or a commander, I don't remember
- 7 exactly who was up there saying what. I just
- 8 remember we were assigned. I actually was with
- 9 Commander Weir.
- 10 Q. Yeah, you said hi to him when you saw
- 11 him on the earlier deposition. When you were with
- 12 him, was he field commander for where you were on
- 13 the 29th?
- 14 A. I'm not sure. I know like later in the
- 15 night that he was -- he was with us. But once
- 16 again, that could have been -- I mean, I'm pretty
- 17 sure that was Friday night.
- 18 Q. All right. What is your best memory of
- 19 what instructions you were given at roll call on
- 20 Friday the 29th before you went down to the
- 21 protests?
- 22 A. To put some riot gear on and go down
- 23 there and try to restore peace. I mean, I don't
- 24 think there were like anything -- anything

- 1 these protests?
- 2 A. For us or for the protestors.
- 3 Q. For the protestors?
- 4 MS. TANOURY: I'm sorry, objection.
- 5 Asked and answered, but he can respond.
- 6 A. Yeah. Once again, I don't -- I don't
- 7 quite recall. I mean, there were clearly tactics
- 8 being used by them. They brought frozen water
- 9 bottles downtown, they came downtown with gas
- 10 masks on and backpacks full of rocks to throw at
- 11 us, so there were clearly some sort of tactics
- 12 being used that I see with my own eyes.
- 13 Q. So you saw backpacks where people were
- 14 grabbing rocks out of backpacks?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. Did you retrieve any of these
- 17 backpacks or did anyone retrieve any of them?
- 18 A. I'm not sure if anyone did. I know I
- 19 did not.
- 20 Q. Okay. So the 29th your roll call,
- 21 you're told to go down and restore the peace.
- 22 What did you do from there? Where did you go?
- 23 A. I think we went to the area of like
- 24 maybe like High and Goodale. I don't know if they

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- specifically said different as far as tactics and
- 2 whatnot, like we had supervisors we reported to
- 3 and that we went out with.
- 4 Q. Okay. Did you get any information on
- 5 what had been going on in the protests earlier
- 6 that day, or had there even been protests earlier
- 7 that day?
- 8 A. I don't really recall. I mean, I'm
- 9 sure they went over some -- some details about the
- 10 groups and whatnot, but I don't really recall.
- 11 Q. Were you told in that roll call or on
- 12 Saturday that the division believed that there
- 13 were some outside agitators or outside organizers
- 14 that were influencing these protests?
- 15 A. I don't think -- like in any official
- 16 capacity? I mean, I do remember hearing that at
- 17 some point, but, I mean, that could have been like
- 18 an officer telling me that or, you know, me
- 19 reading it online. I don't think we ever were
- 20 told that like in an official capacity, though.
- 21 Q. Well, were you ever told that, for
- 22 example, Chief Quinlan believed that there were
- 23 special tactics being used and there were -- there
- 24 were special kind of organizing being done for

- 1 cross, you know, Short Northish area. There was a
- 2 crowd in that area that surrounded a cruiser, so
- 3 officers were screaming on the air that they
- 4 needed help. So we went down there, dispersed
- 5 that crowd.
- 6 Q. How did you disperse that crowd?
- 7 A. Chemical agents.
- 8 Q. Did you -- Mark 9 canisters?
- 9 A. I think -- yeah, yeah, I would say I
- 10 used a Mark 9 that day, yeah.
- 11 Q. Okay. Anyone else? It wasn't just
- 12 you, right? There were others using the Mark 9?
- 13 A. Other officers had Mark 9s. I'm not
- 14 sure what officers used what down there, but I
- 15 know I used a Mark 9.
- 16 Q. How many people were around this
- 17 cruiser?
- 18 A. In that specific area? I would say
- 19 probably 20.
- 20 Q. Okay. And where was the area exactly?
- 21 Was that right at Goodale and High or --
- 22 A. Yeah, I don't know the exact area. I
- 23 mean, we're talking this happened almost a year
- 24 ago. Yeah, I know it was like Short North area,

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- 1 like directly off High Street. I don't know if
- 2 High and Goodale intersect, but that sounds right
- 3 for some reason.
- 4 Q. For the Mark 9 discharge on the 28th,
- 5 did you fill out a use of force report?
- 6 A. I have not filled out any use of force
- 7 report because I have not been back to work since
- 8 Sunday, that Sunday --
- 9 Q. So --
- 10 A. -- that Saturday.
- 11 Q. Are there any use of force reports for
- 12 any of the force that you had to use to restore
- 13 the peace at the protests?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Are you supposed to do that?
- 16 A. Yes, but I was cleared by my
- 17 supervisors that seeing as I'm not at work right
- 18 now, I clearly cannot do it, so I'll do it when I
- 19 get back to work.
- 20 Q. Is that because you're physically
- 21 unable to do it or it's just division policy, as
- 22 you understand it, if you're not working, you're
- 23 not supposed to be doing work tasks?
- 24 A. I just told my sergeant, my lieutenant,

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. All right. Let's talk about the 29th
- 3 again.
- 4 A. So Friday?
- 5 Q. So you were able, through the use of
- 6 chemical agents, to get this crowd out from around
- 7 the cruiser. What happened from there?
- 8 A. Once they dispersed, the cruiser was
- 9 able to go away. You know, the crowd, they ran in
- 10 different directions. We ended up back downtown
- 11 at Broad and High, held a line there for a while,
- 12 or just kind of playing like a relief position for
- 13 officers that needed it, you know, officers that
- 14 were on a line for a while.
- 15 Q. Give me your best estimate of the time
- 16 of day you arrived at Broad and High.
- 17 A. Yeah, I mean, I wouldn't even know
- 18 where to start. Like I don't even know what time
- 19 we came into work that day.
- 20 Q. It was still light out, though, right?
- 21 A. Yeah. Yeah. I would say it was still
- 22 daytime out.
- 23 Q. Where were you holding the line when
- 24 you first came down to Broad and High?

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- 1 and they said, don't worry about it till you get
- 2 back.
- 3 Q. Okay. Who's your sergeant and
- 4 lieutenant?
- 5 A. My sergeant is Sergeant Sykes and my
- 6 lieutenant is Lieutenant Hargus and Lieutenant
- 7 Scott.
- 8 Q. All right.
- 9 A. I had two at that point.
- 10 Q. All right. You're right-handed or
- 11 left-handed?
- 12 A. I'm right-handed.
- 13 Q. So it's your left hand that's not
- 14 working too well because you're in a sling right
- 15 now, right?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- 17 Q. All right. But you're able to write
- 18 with your right hand?
- 19 A. I am.
- 20 Q. All right. So if the division said to
- 21 you, Officer Johnson, I want you to fill out a use
- 22 of force report so we can have a record of the use
- 23 of force that you used on these protests, you
- 24 would physically be able to do that, right?

- 1 A. So we were on the west part of the
- 2 intersection.
- 3 O. West of -- on Broad Street west of
- 4 Broad and High?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Facing Broad and High?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Behind you or in front of you perhaps
- 9 or next to you, were there any SWAT vehicles?
- 10 A. Not that I recall.
- 11 Q. Okay. Were there grenadiers deployed?
- 12 A. I think there were grenadiers that day,
- 13 yes.
- 14 Q. How do you distinguish them? What --
- 15 is there some special way you can tell that
- 16 they're grenadiers? And let's -- you can see if
- 17 they're carrying the gas guns --
- 18 A. That's it.
- 19 Q. -- on the top?
- 20 A. That's the clue I use.
- 21 Q. Okay. So you did see grenadiers
- 22 deployed with you at west -- you know, standing on
- 23 west Broad?
- 24 A. I'm pretty sure they were at the

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- 1 intersection, yeah.
- 2 Q. Okay. Facing east, right?
- 3 A. Correct. Like when we first got down
- 4 there, we started facing east. And then at some
- 5 point, we kind of transitioned on the other side
- 6 facing west. And like the crowd was at like
- 7 the -- in the intersection of course, but like the
- 8 southwest part of the intersection, there was like
- 9 a big glass like awning in that part of the
- 10 intersection.
- 11 Q. All right. Describe what was happening
- 12 when you first came down to the line on west
- 13 Broad.
- 14 A. About the same thing that happened
- 15 Thursday. They were throwing stuff at us. Like,
- 16 as we were walking up to the line, you know, they
- 17 were chucking rocks and chucking bricks at us, you
- 18 know, frozen water bottles. It seemed like they
- 19 were definitely more organized that day just
- 20 because, you know, they had a lot more stuff to
- 21 throw at us, including frozen water bottles.
- 22 Q. Even more objects being thrown than the
- 23 day before?
- 24 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. More than once?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 O. More than five times?
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 Q. Did you receive any bruises from those
- 6 assaults?
- 7 A. I did
- 8 Q. Did you take any photographs of the
- 9 bruises that you received during these days you
- 10 were managing the protests?
- 11 A. I did not.
- 12 Q. Did you deploy your chemical -- any
- 13 chemical agents at the -- at any protestors or
- 14 group of protestors during the time you were down
- 15 at Broad and High on Friday the 29th?
- 16 A. I did not.
- 17 Q. What were you doing?
- 18 A. Standing there holding the line. At
- 19 that point, I think SWAT was roving around that
- 20 day, kind of deploying munitions. We had like
- 21 grenadiers deploying stuff.
- 22 O. All right. Give me a second to look at
- 23 some notes here.
- 24 A. Yep.

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- 1 Q. So --
- 2 A. In that general area, yes.
- 3 Q. So you estimated that you probably
- 4 observed a hundred the day before, so you observed
- 5 more than that this day?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. How many -- how many hours were you
- 8 down there?
- 9 A. Once again, I don't know exactly the
- 10 time frame that I was there. But I would say we
- 11 spent a good amount of our time at that
- 12 intersection that day. I would say maybe
- 13 80 percent of the time that we were down there or
- 14 80 percent of my shift we were down in that
- 15 intersection in some sort of capacity and, you
- 16 know --
- 17 Q. Throughout the entire time you were
- 18 being assaulted with rocks, bricks and frozen
- 19 water bottles and other objects?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Were you struck during that time?
- 22 A. Yes
- 23 Q. How many times were you struck?
- 24 A. No idea.

- Q. How late did you work on the 29th?
- 2 A. Once again, I have no idea. I know it
- 3 was longer than my normal shift.
- 4 Q. Now, in a normal shift when you have to
- 5 use force, when do you normally fill out your use
- 6 of force report?
- 7 A. Well, you have to let your supervisor
- 8 know by the end of your shift, and then you can
- 9 kind of work it out with them when an applicable
- 10 time is to fill that out. There was no down time
- 11 during three of those days, the three days that I
- 12 was down there to fill those slips out.
- 13 O. Sure.
- 14 A. You know, we were there for well beyond
- 15 our shift. So when you got home, you got in your
- 16 car and you went. When you came to work, you
- 17 either met at the academy or substation and you
- 18 grabbed your gear and went downtown.
- 19 Q. Understood. Normally you fill out a
- 20 use of force report when your shift is over on the
- 21 same day or normally fill it out the next day or
- 22 just depends on --
- 23 A. Yeah, that night or the next day. As
- 24 long as you let your supervisor know, you know,

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- 1 hey, I used force this day -- I used forced today
- 2 and this is what happened.
- 3 Q. Who was your supervisor on the 28th?
- 4 A. I would say it was Sergeant Sykes. I
- 5 mean, that's my go-to sergeant, so, you know.
- 6 Q. Was he there?
- 7 A. That I'm not sure. I'm not sure. I
- 8 know I talked with Lieutenant Scott, Sergeant
- 9 Coleman, and -- yeah, I think that those are like
- 10 the two that like really stand out to me. But I'm
- 11 not -- I'm not sure what supervisors were there
- 12 what days and whatnot.
- 13 Q. All right. Who did you consider your
- 14 supervisor on Friday the 29th?
- 15 A. I'm not sure who was there.
- 16 Q. Okay. Who was giving orders?
- 17 A. Once again, I'm not sure exactly what
- 18 supervisor we had in our group that day.
- 19 Q. Have you watched any of the video that
- 20 was -- you know there are cameras, traffic?
- 21 A. Everywhere downtown.
- 22 Q. Cameras that take overhead video of
- 23 what was -- what goes on at the area of Broad and
- 24 High, right? You know that, right?

- 1 well, where were you exactly when you were told to
- 2 go home? Where were -- what street were you and
- 3 where were you facing?
- 4 A. I think we were a little further east
- 5 of the intersection of Broad and High, so maybe
- 6 like two or three blocks east of that
- 7 intersection. I don't know what that cross street
- 8 would have been.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 MS. TANOURY: Hey, John, I just want to
- 11 flag, it's 1:58.
- 12 MR. MARSHALL: Yeah, we better -- I
- 13 don't have a whole lot more, but if Officer
- 14 Johnson doesn't mind hanging on. Let's get on
- 15 that call with the Court.
- 16 Officer Johnson, we've got a call with
- 17 the Court, and my guess is it's going to be
- 18 15 minutes, so if you -- why don't we take -- why
- 19 don't you go ahead and take a 15-minute break,
- 20 and, Mary, you can take a 15-minute break. We'll
- 21 have a little extra break, but if we're not back
- 22 when you get back on, it shouldn't be too much
- 23 longer, or one of us will jump in and let you
- 24 know.

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- 1 A. Oh, yeah, cameras everywhere.
- 2 Q. Yeah. And there were also helicopters,
- 3 you could hear helicopters at various points in
- 4 time?
- 5 A. That's very true.
- 6 Q. Have you seen any of the overhead video
- 7 of what was going on on the 29th and afternoon and
- 8 evening?
- 9 A. Nope. I was down there, I don't need
- 10 to relive it.
- 11 Q. Okay. Fair to say, though, that the --
- 12 well, let's finish up on the 29th. About when did
- 13 you stop working on the 29th?
- 14 A. Once again, I have no idea what my
- 15 shift was that day.
- 16 Q. What caused you to be able to go home?
- 17 You were just told it's time to go?
- 18 A. Yep. Group comes up and says, hey,
- 19 your relief's here, go ahead and march down to
- 20 headquarters.
- 21 Q. Okay. Is that what you did, you walked
- 22 down to headquarters or --
- 23 A. Yeah.
- 24 Q. All right. How big was the crowd --

- THE WITNESS: Okay. Perfect. I have
- 2 a -- okay, perfect.
- 3 (A recess is taken.)
- 4 Q. All right. Thanks for your patience.
- 5 Officer Johnson, we were finishing up
- 6 on the -- what happened at the protests on
- 7 Thursday the 29th.
- 8 At what point did you move -- you said
- 9 you went down there and you were a little bit west
- 10 of the intersection of Broad and High on Broad
- 11 Street facing east.
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. I think when you first arrived, right?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. How long after that did you move to a
- 16 different location?
- 17 A. We weren't there long. I don't know
- 18 the exact time frame, but I know we spent a
- 19 majority of our time at that intersection either
- 20 on the north side or the east side.
- 21 Q. Well, you weren't facing east on west
- 22 Broad very long, but you spent the majority of
- 23 your entire time down there at -- you know, in and
- 24 around the intersection of Broad and High, is that

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- 1 what you're saying?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. Sometimes you were north on High facing
- 4 south?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Sometimes you were on east Broad Street
- 7 facing west?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. And how were you getting from one
- 10 location to the other? Was there some perimeter
- 11 established or how --
- 12 A. Yeah. I mean, I think the goal was to
- 13 continue to push the crowd further and further
- 14 out. If we would push them past an intersection,
- 15 we would try to hold that intersection. I'm not
- 16 sure exactly why we transitioned from the west
- 17 side to the east side, but I know that during that
- 18 time, a majority of the crowd was at the southwest
- 19 corner under that glass awning I was talking about
- 20 earlier.
- 21 Q. The majority of the crowd was on the
- 22 southwest corner of Broad and High; is that what
- 23 you're saying? There's a pizza place there,
- 24 right?

- 1 east, then that's what I was going to do. If I
- 2 was there standing west, that's what I was going
- 3 to do, so that was my job, so...
- 4 Q. So the crowd couldn't get through the
- 5 line and get elsewhere, is that what you're
- 6 saying?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Okay. Did -- and any of the lines you
- 9 were holding, either on west Broad facing east or
- 10 on north High facing south or on east Broad facing
- 11 west, did the crowd break the line?
- 12 A. No. Like they never went directly
- 13 through our line, no.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. I mean, there were times where they
- 16 would find like an alley or, you know, something
- 17 and end up behind us and, you know, we would just
- 18 have to change where our line was. If we were on
- 19 the east side, we would change to the north side
- 20 and, you know, vice versa.
- 21 Q. Yeah. The alleys, various alleys, one
- 22 runs behind One Columbus, you know that alley?
- 23 A. I do not.
- 24 Q. Okay. This isn't your usual area where

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- 1 A. Yeah, right by that pizza place, that
- 2 glass overhang.
- 3 Q. Yeah. And there's kind of a patio
- 4 area?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. Are we able to dislodge the
- 7 crowd from that area?
- 8 A. I don't think we successfully did that
- 9 that night, at least to my recollection. You
- 10 know, they were -- I think they were there at
- 11 least the majority of the time.
- 12 Q. Why did you need to dislodge them from
- 13 that area?
- 14 A. I mean, they were breaking stuff, they
- 15 were throwing stuff at us. I mean, at that point
- 16 they were a violent crowd, an unruly crowd, and we
- 17 had to disperse them.
- 18 Q. Okay. And where were the dispersal
- 19 orders coming from, at least from your hearing on
- 20 the radio or your observation, where -- who was
- 21 giving those dispersal orders?
- 22 A. Well, we were standing the line. Like
- 23 my job was to sit there and hold the line. If I
- 24 was told to stand in the intersection and face

- 1 you patrol, is it?
- 2 A. It is not.
- 3 Q. So the majority of your shift on the
- 4 29th was at one of the three locations we've just
- 5 talked about, west Broad, east Broad or north
- 6 High; is that fair?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. And during all of the times you
- 9 were there, the officers were being assaulted by
- 10 rocks, frozen water bottles, liquid water bottles
- 11 and other objects; is that correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. That didn't stop for any appreciable
- 14 length of time, that just continued through the
- 15 hours that you were there?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. And at some point, did SWAT or
- 18 grenadiers clear groups of protestors while you
- 19 were there?
- 20 A. They attempted to, yes.
- 21 Q. How did they do that? What methods did
- 22 they use?
- 23 A. I'm not sure what they were deploying,
- 24 but they were deploying some sort of munitions.

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- But, I mean, if they -- I remember multiple times
- 2 where someone would throw like a gas grenade or,
- you know, some sort of canister that released gas 3
- or a chemical agent, and the crowd would just grab
- 5 it and throw it right back at us.
- Q. Like a tear gas grenade? 6
- 7
- 8 Were you wearing gas masks?
- 9 A. Some of the time, yes, some of the
- time, no. 10
- 11 O. Did you ever get affected by the tear
- 12 gas that was used?
- 13 A. I mean, even with the gas mask, like
- 14 you'll have residual effect, some might get in
- your filter or whatnot. But, I mean, I was
- covered in tear gas and pepper spray, so... 16
- 17 Q. And that was what SWAT was deploying,
- 18 they were deploying tear gas and pepper spray?
- 19 I have no idea what they were
- 20 deploying. Once again, I'm not a grenadier, I
- 21 don't know what that stuff is.
- 22 Okay. You've never fired a 37 or 40
- millimeter wooden baton? You've never done that? 23
- 24 A. Nope.

- A. Right.
- 2 Q. So Saturday the 30th, you were getting
- 3 hit with objects all day long?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And --
- A. The crowd was a little further back 6
- 7 that Saturday. I don't know why I want to keep
- 8 saying Sunday.
- q Well, let's walk through that Saturday,
- 10 which was the last day you worked for some time.
- 11 A.
- 12 O. Saturday the 30th, was that when you
- 13 reported to the academy?
- 14 A. We did report to the academy on the
- 30th, yes. 15
- Q. How many officers were there at that 16
- 17 roll call?
- 18 A. I would say it was about the same,
- 19 maybe 50.
- 20 Q. In protective gear or were you deployed
- 21 with the protective gear on?
- 22 A.
- 23 O. Did you have -- did you have it on for
- 24 roll call or put it on after roll call?

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- 1 Q. Okay. Did you see them being fired?
- 2 A. I'm not sure what's what. I heard
- 3 stuff being deployed. You have to talk to a
- 4 grenadier about that. I'm not going to try to
- 5 identify something I'm not sure what it is.
- All right. Did you have any lingering 6 7
- injuries from what happened on the 29th? I know
- you had bumps and bruises, anything that lasted -or what you had to have -- well, any injuries from 9
- the 29th for which you had to have medical 10
- 11 treatment?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Did you receive any injuries on the
- 14 30th?
- 15 A. No.
- Q. 16 So no injuries on the 30th, right?
- 17 A. No. I mean, just the normal bumps,
- 18 bruises, scrapes, stuff like that.
- 19 Q. Did you get bumps, bruises?
- 20 We were getting hit with objects all
- 21 day long, yeah, scrapes and bruises and bumps and
- 22 all sorts of stuff.
- 23 Q. And that's true on the 30th, too,
- 24 right?

- Put it on after.
- All right. So about 50 officers at the 2 O.
- 3 academy in a big room, right?
- 4 A.
- 5 Q. Who addressed the group?
- I'm not sure. Some supervisor, whether 6
- 7 it was a commander or deputy chief, some higher
- 8 ranking supervisor.
- 9 Q. What was the instructions you were
- 10 given?
- 11 A. Same thing. You have -- supervisors
- 12 listen to what they tell you, if they tell you to
- 13 go stand at the intersection, hold the line, hold
- 14 the line.
- 15 Q. And was the instruction basically we
- 16 need to go down to these protests and restore the
- 17 peace, that was the instruction, right?
- 18 I mean, our instructions were listen to
- 19 our supervisor. It's -- it -- I was under the
- 20 influence, it's not my job to understand the exact
- 21 plan. If they tell me to go somewhere and do
- 22 something, it's -- they probably have a plan for
- 23 it, so that's what I'm going to do.
- 24 Sure. Yeah, no, I understand you take

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- orders, that's your job. I'm wondering whether
- they gave you any instruction overall, like here's 2
- how we're going to handle the situation today? 3
- I'm not 100 percent sure. 4
- 5 Q. Okay. When did you know about these
- protests, you know, on the 28th or even before the 6
- 7 28th? Let's ask this question: Before the 28th,
- 8 were you aware that whether they were called Black
- 9 Lives Matter protests were going on in various
- 10 cities throughout the country?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You paid attention to the news on that
- or at least saw some of the news? 13
- 14 I mean, I knew they were going on. I
- 15 don't know if I seen it from the news or online
- 16 somewhere.
- 17 Okay. On the 28th -- by the 28th, had Q.
- you seen the video of George Floyd's -- the 18
- killing of George Floyd? Had you seen that? 19
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Did you watch the whole thing?
- 22 A. I'm not sure. Probably.
- 23 Q. What did you think of it?
- 24 A. I thought that it was hard to watch.

- 1 point.
- 2 Q. All right. But by the time of the
- 28th, you knew there were some protests going on
- in some cities that were sort of against the
- 5 police, right?
- 6 A. I mean, I just knew that there were
- 7 protests and demonstrations and riots going on
- 8 everywhere.
- 9 Well, you knew what they were about,
- 10 right? The people were making claims about police
- 11 conduct, right?
- Yes. 12 A.
- 13 Q. You knew that the protests were largely
- 14 anti-police, right?
- 15 I wouldn't assume that. I would
- 16 just -- they were just demonstrations going on.
- 17 Q. Well, the signs -- you saw lots of
- signs at these protests, right? 18
- 19 A. I did.
- 20 Q. Did you see signs that were -- were
- 21 sort of ugly comments about the police, like fuck
- 22 the police, you know --
- 23 A. I did.
- 24 Q. -- those kinds of things?

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- 1 Did you think there was any -- from
- 2 what you saw, any justification for the killing of
- 3 George Floyd?
- You know, it's hard to armchair 4
- 5 quarterback these videos without being there and
- knowing all of the details. I just know that it 6
- 7 was a hard video to watch.
- 8 Okay. All right. So you don't have
- 9 any opinion one way or the other about this
- situation, meaning -- ultimate -- after everything 10
- 11 you've seen and heard and read and were told, did
- you form any opinion about the killing of George
- Floyd? Did you believe that it was justified, 13
- 14 unjustified, have you formed any opinion?
- 15 A. I believe that there was a process in
- 16 place and that that process was going to be
- 17 executed. And by the end of that, the
- 18 investigation was going to begin and they were
- going to find out what happened. And, you know, 19
- 20 if the officers were in the wrong, they would be
- held accountable, hopefully, and if not then --21 You know the officers involved were
- 23 indicted, right?

22 Q.

24 I know that one went to jail at some A.

- A. I did.
- 2 O. And you heard chants like that from
- 3 some members of the crowd or sometimes the entire
- 4
- 5 A. When I was down there, is that what
- you're asking about, or just in general?
- 7 Q. When you were down there?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. You also knew these protestors were
- calling for things like defunding the police, 10
- 11 right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 And there were signs to that effect
- 14 that you saw when you were down there?
- 15 A. That is correct.
- 16 Okay. Did you believe that going down
- 17 there on the 28th for the first time, did you
- 18 believe that there was likely to be some violence
- 19 against the police?
- 20 No. I mean, I don't know. I don't
- 21 know what I expected going down there. I didn't
- 22 expect it to be this.
- 23 Q. Well, you did encounter a lot of
- violence, right? 24

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- 1 A. What?
- 2 Q. You did encounter a great deal of
- 3 violence against the police and some other
- 4 behaviors, right?
- 5 A. That is very correct.
- 6 Q. So let's do talk about the 30th. You
- 7 went to the academy, you -- where did you go from
- 8 there?
- 9 A. Right back down to the area of Broad
- 10 and High. We spent some time there, we spent some
- 11 time at the south -- just south of that
- 12 intersection. So I think you said it was State,
- 13 which that sounds about right. So, you know, High
- 14 and State area. And then we ended up back over a
- 15 couple blocks east of that Broad and High
- 16 intersection on Broad Street. I'm not sure what
- 17 the cross street is, but a couple blocks just east
- 18 of that.
- 19 Q. Okay. Where did you spend the most
- 20 time?
- 21 A. I would say it was probably split
- 22 between Broad and High and the intersection a
- 23 couple blocks east of.
- 24 Q. And a couple blocks east of was -- one

- 1 A. At one point we were holding the line
- 2 south, and then at one point we were holding the
- 3 line east.
- 4 Q. Holding the line south, you were on
- 5 Broad Street, on east Broad Street holding a line
- 6 south facing south on what street? Was that
- 7 Cleveland?
- 8 A. Just east of. So when we started out
- 9 at Broad and High, the crowd continued to be
- 10 pushed east. So once they would get to an
- 11 intersection, we would go east to that
- 12 intersection, hold that intersection, that way we
- 13 would remain more ground -- or retain more ground.
- 14 Q. All right.
- 15 A. They would continue to go and we would
- 16 continue to follow them.
- 17 Q. All right. So during this time on the
- 18 30th, the crowd is continue -- the bulk of the
- 19 crowd, maybe not every person, but the bulk of the
- 20 crowd is continuously being moved east of Broad
- 21 and High, right?
- 22 A. The crowd that we were dealing with,
- 23 yes.
- 24 Q. All right. And was your crowd a

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- 1 block east of is State and High?
- 2 A. It's further than that.
- 3 Q. Right. So would be another block or
- 4 two?
- 5 A. Yeah. How far is Cleveland Avenue?
- 6 Have you got a map pulled up, is that what you're
- 7 looking at right now?
- 8 Q. Yeah, I was. It's four, five blocks it
- 9 looks like?
- 10 A. About four or five blocks, so, yeah,
- 11 maybe just before Cleveland Avenue.
- 12 Q. It's hard to tell from this. It's not
- 13 a very good map. It's at least four blocks, does
- 14 that sound right?
- 15 A. Well, I'm not sure. I was asking what
- 16 the map showed, but I would say we were maybe just
- 17 short of that intersection.
- 18 Q. And what were you doing there?
- 19 A. Same thing, holding a line, you know.
- 20 Q. Okay. Where were the protestors when
- 21 you were holding that line?
- 22 A. East of -- east and south of.
- 23 Q. You mean they were -- you were holding
- 24 a line facing east?

- 1 particularly violent one, throwing a lot of
- 2 objects and so on?
- 3 A. They were definitely throwing stuff.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. Also like hopping on cars and breaking
- 6 car windows.
- 7 Q. All right. And this was happening
- 8 during daylight hours?
- 9 A. Yeah. Yeah.
- 10 Q. And in the end and into the evening
- 11 hours?

18

- 12 A. I don't know when it ended. By the
- 13 time I went home, stuff was still going on. They
- 14 had caught like a building down -- they caught a
- 15 building on fire downtown and then stopped the
- 16 fire. Trucks were trying to get down there.
- 17 There was a lot going on by the time I left.
- 19 an object during the -- your shift on the 30th?

Okay. How many times were you hit with

- 20 A. I have no idea. Like I said, the crowd
- 21 was a little further out that day, so probably not
- 22 as many, but definitely hit with items that day.
- 23 Q. Okay. To your knowledge, any of the
- 24 individuals who hit you with a rock or brick or

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- 1 frozen water bottle charged or arrested?
- 2 A. I have no idea.
- 3 Q. Do you know if the city has used any of
- 4 the video to try to identify any of those
- 5 individuals?
- 6 A. I've been off work since that Saturday,
- 7 so I have no idea.
- 8 Q. Okay. Did you deploy your chemical --
- 9 your belt mace or your Mark 9 canister on the
- 10 30th?
- 11 A. I did not.
- 12 Q. Okay. If the crowd is throwing
- 13 objects, how are they being controlled?
- 14 A. The grenadiers and SWAT.
- 15 Q. So grenadiers and SWAT were doing their
- 16 best to try to control the crowd using whatever
- 17 methods they used, right?
- 18 A. Yeah. Yep. And I mean, there were
- 19 like horses down there, there were other agencies
- 20 down there to help push the crowd, but I would say
- 21 the bulk amount of our assistance came from SWAT
- 22 or grenadiers.
- 23 Q. Your own grenadiers, Columbus
- 24 grenadiers, right?

- 1 somewhat of an effect eventually.
- 2 Q. But by the time you went off shift,
- 3 whenever that was, was it dark when you went off
- 4 shift?
- 5 A. It was.
- 6 Q. All right. So if we're talking May,
- 7 probably doesn't get dark until 8:30, 9:00 at
- 8 night, does that sound right?
- 9 A. Sure.
- 10 Q. I don't know.
- 11 A. Yeah, I don't either. I would say
- 12 yeah, maybe around 8:00 it starts to get dark,
- 13 7:00 or 8:00.
- 14 Q. Well, I think it's a lot later than
- 15 that. Because the solstice is June 21st, so
- 16 that's only 20, 22 days later after these
- 17 protests, that's the longest day of the year, it
- 18 stays light in Columbus until around 10:00 at
- 19 night.
- 20 A. I have no idea. I don't know how any
- 21 of that works.
- 22 Q. All right. Fair enough. Let's just
- 23 say this: Whenever you got off shift, it was
- 24 dark, right?

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- 1 A. Grenadiers in general. I'm not sure I
- 2 know ours were down there. I'm not sure if other
- 3 ones were or not.
- 4 Q. Did you see them deploy tear gas?
- 5 A. Once again, I'm not a grenadier, I
- 6 don't know what's being deployed, what's in those
- 7 cans.
- 8 Q. You saw them deploying various
- 9 munitions but weren't sure what it was, right?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Could have been knee knockers, right?
- 12 Or could have been tear gas or both?
- 13 MS. TANOURY: Objection. Asked and
- 14 answered, but he can respond.
- 15 A. Could have been anything.
- 16 Q. Okay. Did it have an effect on the
- 17 crowd?
- 18 A. Effect on the crowd?
- 19 Q. Yes
- 20 A. Sometimes they would disperse, you hear
- 21 like a loud bang and they kind of jump for a
- 22 minute and separate, then they gather back. Like
- 23 I said, some of the munitions were thrown back at
- 24 us. But, yeah, I mean, I would say it had

- A. Correct.
- 2 MR. MARSHALL: All right. I'm going to
- 3 take a break. I don't have that much more,
- 4 Officer Johnson. Probably a few more questions.
- 5 So it is 2:35, let's take a 10-minute break, and I
- will be back and we'll finish up.
- 7 (A recess is taken.)
- 8 MR. MARSHALL: Good news is I'm
- 9 finished. Officer Johnson, thank you for your
- 10 time today.

17

- 11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. MARSHALL: We will take the
- 13 transcript, Mary.
- 14 MS. TANOURY: Yes, Officer Johnson, I
- 15 would recommend that you take the time to review
- 16 the transcript and then sign.
 - THE WITNESS: Perfect.
- MS. TANOURY: You'll have the
- 19 opportunity to do that.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. Perfect.
- 21 (Signature not waived.)
- 22 ----
- 23 Thereupon, the foregoing proceedings
- concluded at 2:43 p.m.

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1 State of Ohio : CERTIFICATE County of Franklin: SS	
2 I, Mary Bradley, RPR, CRR, a Notary Public in	
3 and for the State of Ohio, certify that Anthony Johnson was by me duly sworn to testify to the 4 whole truth in the cause aforesaid; testimony then	
given was reduced to stenotype in the presence of said witness, afterwards transcribed by me; the	
foregoing is a true record of the testimony so 6 given; and this deposition was taken at the time and place specified on the title page.	
7 Pursuant to Rule 30(e) of the Federal Rules of	
8 Civil Procedure, the witness and/or the parties have not waived review of the deposition 9 transcript.	
9 transcript. 10 I certify I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties hereto,	
and further I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto,	
or financially interested in the action. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, on	
14 February 23, 2021. 15	
16 17 18 Ully Mully	
19 0	
Mary Bradley, Notary Public - State of Ohio 21 My commission expires September 19, 2024.	
22 23 24	
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Witness Errata and Signature Sheet	
Correction or Change Reason Code	
1-Misspelling 2-Word Omitted 3-Wrong Word 4-Clarification 5-Other (Please explain)	
Page/Line Correction or Change Reason Code	
I, Anthony Johnson, have read the entire	
transcript of my deposition taken in this matter,	
or the same has been read to me. I request that the changes noted on my errata sheet(s) be entered	
into the record for the reasons indicated.	
DateSignature	
The witness has failed to sign the deposition	
within the time allowed.	
Date Signature	

Ref: Mb301487aj S-mb P

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